GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5566
ANSWERED ON:24.04.2001
MEGA PLAN FOR GENOME
Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have drawn up a mega plan of research for boosting genome related research in 20 groups in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the said project is lying with the Planning Commission for clearance; and

(d) if so, the time by which the clearance is likely to be accorded?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT)

(a) & (b) : Yes Sir, a mega-plan has been drawn up to boost genomics research in the country in consultation with many experts. Some of the institutions to be associated would be: Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore; National Institute of Immunology, New Delhi; National Centre for Cell Science, Pune; National Brain Research Centre, New Delhi; Alhdia Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi; Indian Institute of Technology, New Delhi; Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi; Institute of Microbial Technology, Chandigarh; Central Scientific Instruments Organization, Chandigarh; Centre for Biochemical Technology, Delhi; Post Graduate Institute of Medical Research, Chandigarh; Sanjay Gandhi Post Graduate Institute of Medical Research, Lucknow; Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi; Indian Institute of Chemical Biology, Kolkata; Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology, Hyderabad; Centre for DNA Fingerprinting and Diagnostics, Hyderabad; Jawaharlal Nehru Centre, Bangalore; Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar; Delhi University, Delhi; Madurai Kamraj University, Madurai; M. S. Baroda University, Baroda; Christian Medical College,Vellore; Immunohaematology Institute, Mumbai; Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, Mumbai; Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata; Central Drug Research Institute,Lucknow; Manovikas Kendra, Kolkata. The areas suggested include:

Single Nucleotide Polymorphism(SNP) studies relating to clinical status of diseases like hypertension, coronary heart diseases, diabetes, neurological disorders and infectious diseases; molecular genetic studies relating to cancers; microarray technology development to identify proper candidates for vaccine and diagnosis of infectious and non-infectious disorders, heterozygous mutation in thalassemia, ambiguous genitalia; structural and functional genomics; microbial genomics; pharmacogenomics DNA banking and EV transformed cells banking; development of knockout/transgenic animals; development of knockout strains/pathogens; genetic disorders counselling units; gene therapy studies.

(c) & (d) : There is no pending proposal with Planning Commission. A provision of Rs. 15 crores has been made in DBT`s budget for the current financial year. Other science departments/organizations also have made provisions. Details would be finalized along with the exercise for the tenth five year plan.